

dominate the international market on these lines. I think that this is a valuable suggestion. We will take it into consideration.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Yesterday, I had given a notice for a mention in Zero Hour on the same matter.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not Zero Hour. What are you talking now?

SHRI A.C. JOS : Yesterday, I did not get time.

MR. SPEAKER : You should not misuse your right like this.

SHRI A.C. JOS : What I am saying is that...

MR. SPEAKER : We are going to the next question.

SHRI A.C. JOS : I am coming to the question.

MR. SPEAKER : Not at all. Question number 426.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jos, this is not the way. I am allowing you to put the supplementary on Tea Board and you are talking about your chance in Zero Hour. This is not the way. I am sorry, Shri Jos.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS : I wanted to mention the same problem yesterday because it is a very serious thing. I mentioned it only as introduction.

MR. SPEAKER : Please put the question.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Many of the tea estates in my constituency, like Paelimedu and Munar are on the verge of closure because there are no exports. In the first part, the Minister has said that the exports are in a staggering position.

Sri Lanka is giving one year's credit for tea export. Russia had disappeared from the market and Iran-Iraq war had totally blocked such an outlet. So, we are out of the international tea market. My first question is, when tea is available in India, why should the Government permit importing of even the smallest quantity of tea?

Secondly, can the Government not think of giving some subsidy or bank loan for the exporters to export to different places? Since Sri Lanka is backed by America, they are exporting tea by giving one year's credit. It is a very serious situation. Lakhs of people are on the verge of unemployment and many tea estates are being closed.

There are two parts. Why should the Government import and why cannot they support the exporters?

MR. SPEAKER : The first part has already been answered; you do not have to repeat it. You answer the second part of it.

SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH : Sir, on the question of tea, we are giving financial support for development and export purposes. I also agree with the hon. Member

that we have lost the market in Iraq and our market has come down in Iran also. The Russian market also is one of the markets which has affected us substantially. In spite of that, we are encouraging the development of other markets. We are able to export as per the programme and I do not think that there is any problem at all. We are able to drive into various markets. We are improving our quality and bringing in more value added products. The packaging system has also improved and we are able to do quite well.

Production and Export of Heavy Industries

*426. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the total production in the heavy industries sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the share of heavy industries in the total exports of the country;

(d) the average number of persons employed in the said industries during the last three years alongwith the details of capital invested therein by the end of March, 1996; and

(e) the number of said industrial units functioning at present in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e). Industrial units are classified as SSI (Small Scale Industries) or non-SSI based on their investment in plant & machinery. The total value of output of the units with investment in plant & machinery of Rs. 50 lakhs and above in 1995-96 in terms of constant 1992-93 prices is estimated to be around Rs. 383 thousand crores. Overall capital invested in these units as on 31st March, 1996 is estimated to be around Rs. 455 thousand crores. These units currently employ around 54 lakh persons. The overall share of these units in manufacturing exports in 1995-96 was around 60%. As per Annual Survey of Industries released by Central Statistical Organisation, the total number of such units in 1992-93 were 14,101.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as there is shortage of time, if you permit, I may ask both the supplementaries together.

MR. SPEAKER : You may do so.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I had asked this question about heavy industries but by giving details of all industries with cost higher than Rs. 50 lakh. But the honourable Minister has defeated the very purpose of asking my question. As you know today even a small unit can not be installed with Rs. 50 lakhs what to talk

of heavy industry. Therefore I would like to know from minister whether you would give the details of industries whose cost as higher than Rs. 5 crores? If the details are not readily available, would you send then later on?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my other supplementary is the one which I had asked in part (d) of my question -

[English]

"the average number of persons employed in the said industries during the last three years..."

But he has replied that these units currently employ around 54 lakh persons.

[Translation]

I wanted to know about the employment provided in those industries during the last three years, the reply is that till date 54 lakh persons. This is not the answer of my question. I wanted to know how many persons could get employment during the last three years, when economic reforms are much talked about, you did not reply and told the figure of 54 lakhs. So please would you tell me the number of persons given employment during last three years?

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN : Sir, we have wrongly understood the question. There is no concept of large scale industries. The classification in our Ministry is SSI units and non-SSI units. If the investment is Rs. 60 lakh or below, it is considered as a Small Scale Industry and above that limit, it is considered as a non-SSI unit. So, what we have done is, we have extrapolated these figures and arrived at these figures. If the hon. Member wants those figures, I will be delighted to send her.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, I wanted the employment figures for the last three years. He said that it is 54 lakhs.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN : Sir, I do not have the figures now. I will send it to the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER : He will send it to you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : That was my original question. So please direct him to give the reply as if the original question is being asked. I had specifically asked for it. How many persons were employed. He says 54 lakhs of people are employed. But this is no way to reply. Please give the instruction that if it has been asked to give details of three years in original question then he should give the total figures. How can you avoid giving reply or information. You can give this direction even after question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Investment Promotion and Infrastructure Development Cell

*427. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cell namely 'Investment Promotion and Infrastructure Development Cell' has been set up in his ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its objects;

(c) the time by which the said cell is likely to start functioning; and

(d) the likely increase in the trade as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Industry has created an Investment Promotion and Infrastructure Development Cell in the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion vide office order dated 15-11-96. The main objectives of creation of this Cell are (i) to give further impetus to investment facilitation, (ii) to monitor investment approvals and (iii) to coordinate matters relating to infrastructure requirements for industry. The Cell has already started functioning from the date of its creation and is being strengthened.

(d) The objective of creation of this Cell is to boost up foreign investment with a special focus on infrastructure, which in turn would inter-alia contribute to increase in trade. It is not however possible to quantify this increase as it has become operational only recently.

Assistance from ADB

*428. SHRI KACHARU BHARU RAUT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total financial assistance provided to India by the "Asia Development Bank", till date;

(b) the details of the areas for which this assistance has been given, sector-wise;

(c) whether the said bank has threatened that it will not provide more financial assistance to India;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The total loan amount approved for India by the Asian Development Bank